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## New Watchman Over CIA

DR. JAMES R. KILLIAN, TOP man at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been called back to Government service—this time to head, for the second time, the citizen committee which watches over the Federal Intelligence Agencies, chiefly the CIA.

The CIA is under fire, as a result of the anti-Castro fiasco in Cuba, and President Kennedy is making some changes as a result. The President also has summoned Gen. Maxwell Taylor to do an independent investigation of the CIA's role in the Cuban flop.

The committee Dr. Killian will head was set up in 1956 on the recommendation of the Hoover Commission. Some of the ablest men in the country are members. It serves a useful purpose. But it is a part-time job. The committee reports only once every six months, and is supposed to keep an eye also on some 30 other intelligence agencies in the Government.

This committee was only half of the Hoover Commission's recommendation. A task force headed by Gen. Mark W. Clark also urged a joint committee of Congress to keep tabs on the CIA and the other cloak-and-dagger outfits. Congress never set up the committee.

Now that the CIA is being badly faulted, a new move to create a joint committee is under way. This time it ought to succeed. Congress, in the last analysis, is responsible for how well the CIA functions, and it should have a competent group of its own members who would know what's going on.

When the Hoover Commission made its study, it said the CIA was badly in need of an internal reorganization, that it wasn't getting "adequate" information and that nobody knew whether it was functioning or not. Nobody yet knows whether the reorganization was undertaken, or with what results if it was.

We don't want to know what the CIA is doing. But somebody ought to know—somebody who isn't easily enchanted by the sheer mystery of the operation. The appropriate "somebody" would be a small, select, bipartisan committee of the House and Senate, knowledgeable enough and diligent enough to see that we have the best intelligence system in the business.

The above editorial also appeared in the following other newspapers:

INDIANAPOLIS TIMES, IND. - MAY 4, 1961  
EVANSVILLE PRESS, IND. - MAY 4, 1961  
DURHAM SUN, N.C. - MAY 11, 1961